

ORIGINAL

FILED

August 11 2010

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Supreme Court Cause No. DA 10-0099

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

**WILLIAM F. BIG SPRING, JR.,
Deceased.**

FILED

AUG 11 2010

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

**JULIE BIG SPRING AND WILLIAM
BIG SPRING, III,**

Appellants.

v.

**ANGELA CONWAY, DOUG
ECKERSON, and GEORGIA ECKERSON,**

Appellees.

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE

**ON APPEAL FROM THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
The HONORABLE LAURIE McKINNON presiding**

APPEARANCE:

**Sandra K. Watts
Legal Counsel
Blackfeet Tribe of Montana
P.O. Box 849
Browning, Montana 59417**

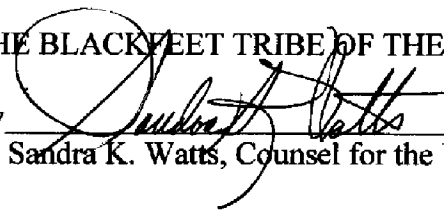
COMES NOW, The Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Reservation in the State of Montana, by and through its Counsel, Sandra K. Watts, and moves this Court, pursuant to the Montana Rules of Appellate Procedure, Rule 12(7), for leave to file a Brief of Amicus Curiae in the above-entitled cause now set before this Court. The interest of the Blackfeet Tribe is the issue of the Tribe's exclusive jurisdiction and right to regulate the inheritance of the fee land of its members at the time of their deaths when such property is located within the exterior boundaries of the Blackfeet Reservation through a probate procedure solely within the Courts of the Blackfeet Tribe. The Blackfeet Tribe identifies the position of the Appellants as the one which would be supported by the Brief of Amicus Curiae of the Blackfeet Tribe if such leave is granted by this Court. The Brief of Amicus Curiae, because of Counsel's schedule, could be filed by August 30, 2010. Counsel for the Blackfeet Tribe has contacted counsel for all parties to this case and has received consent of Joe J. McKay, Counsel for Appellants Julie Big Spring and William Big Spring, III for its request for leave to file a Brief of Amicus Curiae. Conditional consent was given by Counsel Ron A. Nelson, Attorney for Appellee Angela Conway if the Amicus brief could be filed by August 16, 2010. Linda Hewitt Conners, Counsel for Appellee Doug Eckerson denied consent to file such Brief Amicus Curiae.

WHEREFORE, the Blackfeet Tribe now moves for leave to file a Brief of Amicus Curiae in the above-entitled cause.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 26th. Day of July, 2010.

THE BLACKFEET TRIBE OF THE BLACKFEET RESERVATION

By


Sandra K. Watts, Counsel for the Blackfeet Tribe

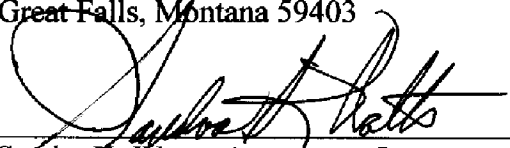
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have filed the above MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BRIEF OF AMICUS CURIAE, with the Clerk of the Montana Supreme Court by facsimile on the 26th. Day of July, 2010, at the hour of 12:05 P.M. and upon all parties of Record by depositing a true and correct copy of the same in the United States mails at Browning, Montana on July 26, 2010 with correct postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Joe J. McKay
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